

Mason, Steve

From: McQuiddy, David
Sent: Thursday, October 31, 2013 2:09 PM
To: Mason, Steve
Subject: FW: EO RELATED WORKGROUPS REQUESTING/REQUIRING REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

Looks like Monica will be going with Carl.

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From: Smith, Monica
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 3:23 PM
To: Belke, Jim
Cc: Broyles, Ragan; Petersen, Chris; Thompson, Steve; Phillips, Pam; Goodfellow, Bob; Haas, Craig; Jennings, Kim; Webster, Susan; Ruhl, Christopher; McQuiddy, David
Subject: RE: EO RELATED WORKGROUPS REQUESTING/REQUIRING REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

Jim – thanks for the response. Carl Edlund and I are planning on attending the listening session in Texas City on November 5, 2013 and the Houston session. Monica

From: Belke, Jim
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 12:21 PM
To: Smith, Monica
Cc: Broyles, Ragan; Petersen, Chris; Thompson, Steve; Phillips, Pam; Goodfellow, Bob; Haas, Craig; Jennings, Kim
Subject: RE: EO RELATED WORKGROUPS REQUESTING/REQUIRING REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

Hi Monica,

The work groups are basically aligned according to the sections of the executive order:

Section 2 is the main “Working Group”, composed of co-chairs at the Asst Secretary or Asst Administrator-level from DHS, EPA, and DOL, and participants from a variety of other agencies, departments, and White House offices. Everyone else reports up to this group. It’s also where the Executive Order “listening sessions,” such as the one next week in Texas City, are being coordinated.

Section 3 is the State/Local/Tribal stakeholder coordination work group, and is charged with developing a plan to help state/local responders, facility owners, and communities to work together to improve chemical safety. There is a connection to the Regional Response Teams in this section of the order, which I think Kim has more to say about. Also, I believe Steve Mason from your Region is already involved in this workgroup.



Section 4 is the Enhanced Federal Coordination work group, and is working on three things: 1) deploying a pilot program in Region 2 to explore innovative methods for interagency collaboration on information collection, outreach, inspection planning, joint inspections, enforcement, etc., 2) developing standard operating procedures for a unified Federal approach to identifying and responding to chemical facility risks, and 3) developing or updating existing MOUs with the Chemical Safety Board.

Section 5 is the Enhanced Information, Collection, and Sharing work group, and is working on analysis of Federal agency programs that collect chemical facility information, and developing recommendations to improve information collection and sharing. This section of the order basically goes back to the fact that West had not filed a CSAT Top Screen registration with DHS as required, and DHS did not pick up on that even though the facility was in the RMP database.

Section 6 is the Policy, Regulation, and Standards Modernization work group. This one is pretty self-explanatory – OSHA, EPA, DHS, and USDA are charged with exploring options to improve existing regulations, including RMP, PSM, CFATS regulations, and considering whether ammonium nitrate is adequately regulated.

Section 7 is the Identification of Best Practices work group, and is working on engaging stakeholders to identify and share best practices to reduce chemical safety and security risks.

In terms of areas where regional participation could be helpful, I can think of a couple of things right away, and I think Kim will maybe have some more ideas. First, as I mentioned above, there are going to be “listening sessions” held around the country over the next several weeks where the Working Group engages with stakeholders to present what is going on with the executive order and provides an opportunity for public feedback. The first such session is going to be next Tuesday in Texas City, and additional sessions are going to be held on the following schedule:

November 15, 2013	Washington, DC
November 19, 2013	Springfield, IL
November 25, 2013	Webinar
December 4, 2013	Hamilton, NJ
December 11, 2013	Orlando, FL
December 16, 2013	Webinar
January 7, 2014	California (TBD)
Week of January 20, 2014	Houston, TX

I think it would be useful for EPA to participate in these sessions – either in person or by listening in on the phone – so that we get a first-hand impression of the sorts of issues that stakeholders are concerned about with respect to the EO. In order to get registration/call-in information on the listening sessions, send an e-mail to EO.chemical@hq.dhs.gov.

Another area where regions can help will be with reviewing and commenting on the various plans that are required to be drafted under the EO. If you read through the EO, you will see that it calls for lots of plans to be developed on some very aggressive timelines. As those dates approach, work groups are going to be sending drafts around and I think some of these draft plans – particularly those relating to sections 3, 4, and other areas where the plan is going to potentially affect our field operations – will benefit from review by people that do the day to day field work. The challenge will be that the time frames are so short that there won’t be much time allotted for those reviews.

Let me know how this sounds and if you have any questions.

Jim Belke

From: Smith, Monica
Sent: Wednesday, October 30, 2013 10:44 AM
To: Belke, Jim; Haas, Craig; Jennings, Kim
Cc: Broyles, Ragan; Petersen, Chris; Thompson, Steve; Phillips, Pam; Goodfellow, Bob
Subject: EO RELATED WORKGROUPS REQUESTING/REQUIRING REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

During the OECA DD RMP call yesterday, there was mention of the inclusion of regional participation in some EO associated workgroups.

Can you please share with us the workgroups you are using

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